In the Claims

Please note that all claims currently pending and under consideration in the referenced application are shown below. Please enter these claims as amended. This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1-2. (Canceled)

3. (Currently Amended) A package for storing discs comprising:

a) a stacked array of disc trays joined along a spine and defining a stack top, a stack bottom and a stack height; and

b) a cover having a front portion and a back portion that are separated by a cover spine having a width equal to the stack height, the back portion of the cover including a strip section that is connected to the cover spine along a first hinge line and a back cover section that is connected to the strip section along a second hinge line, wherein the back cover section is fixedly attached to the stack bottom and the front portion and strip section of the cover are free from attachment to the stack and may be ~~is~~ separated from engagement with the stack when the cover is pivoted about the first and second hinge axis and moved into an open position.

4. (Previously presented) A package as recited in Claim 3, wherein the trays are substantially planar.

5. (Previously presented) A package as recited in Claim 3, wherein the cover is formed from a single ply substrate.

6. (Previously presented) A package as recited in Claim 3, wherein the back cover section is adhered to the stack bottom.

7. (Currently Amended) A package for storing articles comprising:

a) a stacked array of substantially planar elements joined along a spine and defining a stack top, a stack bottom and a stack height; and

b) a cover having a front portion and a back portion that are separated by a cover spine having a width equal to the stack height, the back portion of the cover including a strip section that is connected to the cover spine along a first hinge line and a back cover section that is connected to the strip section along a second hinge line, wherein the back cover section is fixedly attached to the stack bottom and the front portion and strip section of the cover are free from attachment to the stack and may be ~~is~~ separated from engagement with the stack when the cover is pivoted about the first and second hinge axis and moved into an open position.

8. (Currently Amended) A method for making a package for storing discs comprising the steps of:

a) providing a stacked array of substantially planar elements;

b) joining the stacked array of substantially planar elements along a spine so as to define a stack top, a stack bottom and a stack height;

c) providing a cover having a front portion and a back portion that are separated by a cover spine having a width equal to the stack height, the back portion of the cover including a strip section that is connected to the cover spine along a first hinge line and a back cover section that is connected to the strip section along a second hinge line; and

d) fixedly attaching the back cover section to the stack bottom such that the front portion and strip section of the cover are free from attachment to the stack and may be ~~are~~ separated from engagement with the stack when the cover is pivoted about the first and second hinge axis and moved into an open position.

9. (Previously presented) The method as recited in Claim 8, wherein the step of fixedly

attaching the back cover section to the stack bottom includes the step of applying an adhesive to the stack bottom and/or the back cover section.

10. (New) A package as recited in claim 3, wherein each tray has a tray thickness, and the strip section has a width at least as great as twice the tray thickness.

11. (New) A package as recited in claim 3, wherein the strip section has a width of at least one half the stack height.

12. (New) A package for storing discs comprising:

a) a stacked array of disc trays joined along a spine and defining a stack top, a stack bottom and a stack height; and

b) a cover having a front portion and a back portion that are separated by a cover spine having a width equal to the stack height, the back portion of the cover including a strip section that is connected to the cover spine along a first hinge line and a back cover section that is connected to the strip section along a second hinge line, wherein the back cover section is fixedly attached to the stack bottom and the front portion of the cover is free from direct attachment to the stack and is separated from engagement with the stack when the front portion of the cover moved into an open position,

wherein with the package placed on a flat surface, and having less than half of the disc trays moved into an open position adjacent the front cover portion, the strip section remains in facing contact with and parallel to the stack bottom, and

wherein with the package placed on a flat surface, and having more than half of the disc trays moved into an open position adjacent the front cover portion, the strip section moves away from facing contact with the stack bottom.

13. (New) A package as recited in claim 12, wherein each tray has a tray thickness, and the strip section has a width at least as great as twice the tray thickness.

14. (New) A package as recited in claim 12, wherein the strip section has a width of at least one half the stack height.

15. (New) A package as recited in Claim 12, wherein the trays are substantially planar.

16. (New) A package as recited in Claim 12, wherein the cover is formed from a single ply substrate.

17. (New) A package as recited in Claim 12, wherein the back cover section is adhered to the stack bottom.